



# Lowell City Council Cannabis Control SC Meeting Minutes

Michael Q. Geary City Clerk

Date: September 13, 2021

*Time:* 5:00 PM

**Location:** City Council Chamber, 375 Merrimack St./Zoom (Hybrid)

## PRESENT:

Present on Roll Call were C. Elliott, C. Drinkwater and C. Nuon. Also present was Eric Slagle (Inspectional Services), C. Chau, Conor Baldwin (CFO) and Allison Chambers (Asst. CFO).

### **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

C. Elliott noted prior meeting had been recessed and called meeting to order.

### **ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

C. Nuon requested update regarding existing host agreements in the City and how many are currently in operation. Mr. Slagle noted that there were five host agreements with one in operation and two others close to obtaining occupancy permits. Mr. Slagle described the location of each facility and outlined the remaining status of each one. Mr. Slagle commented on the cultivation facilities in the City with host agreements noting there were currently twelve with no more in the pipeline and described their locations throughout the City. Mr. Slagle noted that delivery businesses need host agreements as well and that there is none currently in the City but there are a few interested entities. C. Drinkwater commented on the delivery permitting and how the State is involved. Mr. Slagle noted similar process for deliveries as for retail and that there is a diversity process involved as well. C. Drinkwater questioned social equity application process. Mr. Slagle noted that the State must certify the equity entity. C. Nuon noted social equity certification and commented on regulations surrounding the matter. C. Elliott commented on the revenue figures regarding cannabis industry. Mr. Baldwin commented on different revenues from host agreements and excise taxes noting the excise tax goes directly to General Fund. Mr. Slagle provided history of revenue for both medical and retail operations. C. Elliott made the distinction between revenue sources. C. Drinkwater noted that the legislation had sunset clauses in them wherein agreements would finish after five years from start of operations. Mr. Baldwin noted General Fund Revenue and Municipal Facilities Stabilization Fund. C. Elliott noted the importance of the fund. C. Nuon noted the need for the fund in particular for the aging firehouses in the City. C. Elliott need added

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information to plan use of funds. Mr. Baldwin noted possible use of funds in a pay as you go Capital Plan. **Motion** by Drinkwater, seconded by C. Nuon to have City Manager provide report regarding use of Municipal Facilities Stabilization Fund to assist with the financing of Capital Fund projects. So voted.

# **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to recess by C. Nuon, seconded by C. Drinkwater. So voted.

Meeting adjourned at 5: 35 PM.

Michael Q. Geary, City Clerk